

Application Serial. No. 10/769,372
Reply to Office Action dated November 22, 2005

Docket No. 1232-5265

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claim Status

Claims 1-9 are pending and stand rejected. By this paper, claims 1 -9 are amended and new claims 10-14 are added. No new matter has been introduced. Of the claims presented herein, claims 1, 4 and 7 are independent in form.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants concurrently file herewith an Information Disclosure Statement citing two US references cited in a co-pending application s/n 10/767,716: USP 6,527,360 and US publication 2004/0080554. Applicants respectfully request that the references cited in the accompanying Form PTO-1449 be considered and that an initialed copy of the form be returned to Applicants.

Objections to the Specification

The Examiner has objected to the Abstract because it contains grammatical errors. Applicants have herein amended the Abstract and respectfully request withdrawal of the stated objection.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC §§ 102 and 103

Independent claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S.P. 6,267,519 to Otsuki et al. ("Ohtsuki"). Independent claims 4 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Otsuki in view of U.S.P. 6,775,022 to Noyes et al. ("Noyes").

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Applicants respectfully disagree with the characterization of the cited references and of the claims in the above rejections and believe that the claims as pending are patentably distinct from the art of record. Applicants respectfully traverse the stated rejections.

Nonetheless, Applicant has herein amended independent claims 1, 4 and 7 to clarify the claimed invention. The invention as recited in the claims presented herein is believed to be patentably distinct over the art of record in this case for at least the following reasons.

In Otsuki, the correction values for correcting print data to be supplied to printheads for both-way recording are stored in a non-volatile memory. However, Otsuki does not teach or suggest that the information designating if the correction processing has been done or not is stored in a non-volatile memory.

Otsuki teaches such ink-jet printing apparatus that is able to perform both-way printing by scanning printheads, wherein correction values are stored in a non-volatile memory. Further in Otsuki, the correction is done individually for monochrome printing and color printing for improving printed image quality for both cases.

It is noted that a characteristic of the claimed present invention is that the information itself designating if the correction processing has been done or not is stored in non-volatile memory. Accordingly, even if a user attempts to print some document by a printer employing a both-way printing system without considering the correction of print timings, the printing apparatus according to the present invention is able to check the memory storing the information designating the correction processing. In this case, it is preferable in an illustrative embodiment that if the correction processing has not been done yet, the printer does not perform the printing operation, and indicates the necessity of the correction processing to a user.

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In the Office Action, the Examiner states that the existence of the adjustment values proves whether or not the correction has been performed or not. However, Otsuki does not teach or suggest that the existence of the adjustment values controls the operation of the printer.

Thus, at least the foregoing feature of claims 1, 4 and 7 is neither taught nor suggested by Otsuki.

Applicants have not independently addressed the rejections of the dependent claims because Applicants submit that, as independent claims 1, 4 and 7 from which the dependent claims depend are allowable for at least those reasons discussed supra, the dependent claims, including new claims 10-14 added herein, are allowable for at least similar reasons. Applicants however, reserve the right to address such rejections should such be necessary.

Accordingly, for at least the foregoing stated reasons, independent claims 1, 4 and 7, and consequently all claims depending therefrom, including new claims 10-14 added herein, are believed to be neither taught nor suggested and thus neither anticipated by nor rendered obvious in view of, and patentably distinct over, Otsuki or Noyes, taken alone or in combination. Applicants respectfully request the rejections in view of Otsuki and/or Noyes be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims as presented herein are allowable over the art of record for at least the stated reasons and that the application is hereby placed in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

While the petitioned extension of time is believed sufficient, should an additional extension of time be required for the timely submission of this paper, such extension is hereby

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petitioned, and the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this paper, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-5265.

In the event that a telephone conference would facilitate prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided.

An early and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: March 22, 2006

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